

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 299

To clarify that certain coal industry health benefits may not be modified  
or terminated.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 25, 2005

Mr. RAHALL (for himself and Mr. COSTELLO) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To clarify that certain coal industry health benefits may  
not be modified or terminated.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. PROTECTION OF COAL INDUSTRY HEALTH**

4 **BENEFITS.**

5 (a) PROHIBITION ON TERMINATION OR MODIFICA-  
6 TION OF BENEFITS.—Section 9711(g) of the Internal  
7 Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to rules applicable to this  
8 part and part II) is amended by adding at the end the  
9 following:

1           “(3) PROHIBITION ON TERMINATION AND MODI-  
2           FICATION OF BENEFITS.—Except as provided in  
3           subsection (d), the benefits required to be provided  
4           by a last signatory operator under this chapter may  
5           not be terminated or modified by any court in a pro-  
6           ceeding under title 11 of the United States Code or  
7           by agreement at any time when such operator is  
8           participating in such a proceeding.”.

9           (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
10          this section shall take effect on January 1, 2004.

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